

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating snoring comprising:
implanting a stimulating electrode into a patient with said electrode in stimulating contact with an airway passage-controlling muscle of said patient; and
energizing said electrode to contract said muscle and alter said airway passage.
2. A method according to claim 1 wherein said electrode is energized by electrically coupling said electrode through an electromagnetic field to a controller not implanted in said patient.
3. A method according to claim 2 wherein said controller is contained with an appliance sized to be removably placed within a mouth cavity of said patient and with said controller electrically coupled to said electrode when said appliance is placed within said mouth cavity.
4. A method according to claim 1 wherein said muscle is a muscle of the soft palate.
5. A method according to claim 1 wherein said muscle is a muscle of the tongue.
6. A method according to claim 1 wherein said muscle is a muscle of the pharynx.
7. A method according to claim 4 wherein said muscle is selected from at least one of the Levator veli palatini, the Palatopharyngeous and the Palatoglossus muscles.
8. A method according to claim 5 wherein said muscle is selected from at least one of the Genioglossus and Geniohyoid muscles.

9. A method according to claim 6 wherein said muscle is selected from at least one of the Superior, Middle and Inferior pharyngeal constrictor, the Salpingopharyngeous and the Stylopharyngeous muscles.
10. An apparatus for treating snoring of a patient, said apparatus comprising:
 - a stimulating electrode adapted to be implanted into a patient with said electrode in stimulating contact with an airway passage-controlling muscle of said patient; and
 - a control member for energizing said electrode to contract said muscle and alter said airway passage
11. An apparatus according to claim 10 wherein said electrode and control member include cooperating components for inductively coupling said control member and said electrode.
12. An apparatus according to claim 11 wherein said control member is carried on an appliance adapted to be removably placed, non-invasively in mouth of said patient.